

### **REMARKS**

Claims 1, 2, 6, 7, 9 and 13-15 are currently pending. Reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

#### **The Prior Art Rejections**

Claims 1 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Gebauer et al. (US Patent 5,741,040) (hereinafter, Gebauer '040). Claims 1, 6, 7, and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Carbary (US Patent 2,668,092) in view of Gebauer et al. (US Patent 5,498,053) (hereinafter, Gebauer '053). Claim 14 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Carbary, Gebauer '053, and further in view of Sekerich (US Patent 4,077,677). Claim 15 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Carbary, Gebauer '053, and further in view of Hamilton (US Patent 583,228). However, the cited prior art does not disclose or render obvious all the features recited in the present claimed invention, as amended.

For instance, amended claims 1 and 7 recite the features, "a unitized driving mechanism, said driving mechanism comprising a rotary member, a driving means for rotating said rotary member, a first supporting member for rotatably supporting said rotary member and supporting said driving means, a second supporting member for supporting said first supporting member with a guide means arranged therebetween in such a manner as to allow movement in a linear direction of said first supporting member, and an elastic member which is arranged between said first supporting member and said second supporting member and presses said first supporting

member in one direction along said linear direction, a part of an outer periphery of said rotary member protruding from an outer surface of said first supporting member for a certain amount.” Cited references (Gebauer ‘053, ‘040, Carbary, Sekerich) fail to disclose or render obvious at least these features.

According to claim 1, the claimed invention comprises the unitized driving mechanism. As a result, the movable body driving device can be simply constructed without requiring any complicated assembly and adjustment only by pressing the rotary member of the driving mechanism against the movable body by the pressing force in one direction of the elastic member so that the rotary member is engaged with the movable body to fix the second supporting member to the fixed side.

According to claim 7, the claimed invention comprises the unitized driving mechanism. As a result, the automatic drawer equipment can be simply constructed without requiring any complicated assembly and adjustment only by pressing the rotary member of the driving mechanism against the drawer by the pressing force in one direction of the elastic member so that the rotary member is engaged with the drawer to fix the second supporting member the frame body side. These effects as stated above cannot be expected from the disclosures of the cited references.

In view of the aforementioned amendments and accompanying remarks, Applicants submit that the claims, as herein amended, are in condition for allowance. Applicants request such action at an early date.

Application No. 10/587,896  
Art Unit: 3637

Amendment under 37 C.F.R. §1.116  
Attorney Docket No. 062710

If the Examiner believes that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

If this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees that may be due with respect to this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,  
**WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP**

/John P. Kong/

John P. Kong  
Attorney for Applicants  
Registration No. 40,054  
Telephone: (202) 822-1100  
Facsimile: (202) 822-1111

JPK/af